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KIDDERMINSTER  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

# ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR

1961



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KIDDERMINSTER  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

FOR

**1961**

## **KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Telephone No.:  
Kidderminster 2237.

LAND OAK HOUSE,  
KIDDERMINSTER.

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### **Chairman:**

COUNCILLOR H. DOOLITTLE, J.P.

### **Vice-Chairman:**

COUNCILLOR A. E. HOBSON.

COUNCILLOR C. BLOUNT.

|   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| „ | W. H. GARDINER, LT. COL. |
| „ | G. R. GILLEY.            |
| „ | H. E. HICKTON.           |
| „ | H. HINGLEY, J.P.         |
| „ | G. LEE.                  |
| „ | J. PAGE.                 |
| „ | J. POWICK.               |
| „ | G. F. PRATT.             |
| „ | E. SMITH.                |
| „ | S. SPENCER.              |
| „ | M. W. STAITE.            |
| „ | C. E. TALBOT.            |
| „ | J. WARDLE, J.P.          |

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Medical Officer of Health:

R. W. MARKHAM, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer:

R. S. PORTER, Cert.S.I.J.B., C.R.San.I.  
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).

Assistant: C. G. KNOTT.

Assistant Housing Officer and Public Health Clerk:

Mrs. J. E. JOHNSON.

Rats and Mice Destruction Officer: E. LEE.

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my REPORT for the year 1961.

## SECTION A.

### Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

|                                                                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Area in acres                                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36,790   |
| Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population mid 1961 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12,120   |
| Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1961                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,116    |
| Rateable Value                                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £132,176 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £522     |

### Social Conditions.

In the main the inhabitants of the district are engaged in agricultural and kindred work, though a certain proportion are employed in industry in neighbouring towns and a number of males are employed at an Iron Works in the district.

### Vital Statistics.

|                |                                                                   |     |     |     | 1961  | 1960    |       |       |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| <b>Births.</b> |                                                                   |     |     |     | Males | Females | Total | Total |
| (a)            | Live Births: Legitimate                                           | ... | 92  | 99  | 191   | 173     |       |       |
|                | Illegitimate                                                      | ... | 7   | 4   | 11    | 10      |       |       |
|                | Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population                  |     |     |     | 16.6  | 14.3    |       |       |
|                | Birth Rate for England and Wales                                  |     |     |     | 17.4  | 17.1    |       |       |
|                |                                                                   |     |     |     | Males | Females | Total | Total |
| (b)            | Still Births: Legitimate                                          | ... | 1   | 0   | 1     | 3       |       |       |
|                | Illegitimate                                                      | ... | 0   | 0   | 0     | 0       |       |       |
| <b>Deaths.</b> |                                                                   |     |     |     | Males | Females | Total | Total |
| (a)            | Number registered for District                                    |     |     |     | 73    | 58      | 131   | 100   |
|                | Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population   |     |     |     | 10.8  | 8.2     |       |       |
|                | Death rate for England and Wales                                  |     |     |     | 12.0  | 11.5    |       |       |
| (b)            | Maternal Mortality                                                | ... | ... | ... | 0     | 0       |       |       |
|                | Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still Births           |     |     |     | 0     | 0       |       |       |
|                | Maternal Mortality Rate for England and Wales                     |     |     |     | .33   | -       |       |       |
| (c)            | Infant Mortality (under 1 year of age)                            |     |     |     | 4     | 7       |       |       |
|                | Death rate of infants under 1 year of age:                        |     |     |     |       |         |       |       |
|                | All Infants per 1,000 live births                                 |     |     |     | 19.8  | 38.2    |       |       |
|                | Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births               |     |     |     | 20.9  | 40.4    |       |       |
|                | Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births           |     |     |     | 0     | 0       |       |       |
|                | Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks                                   |     |     |     | 3     | -       |       |       |
|                | Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (first 4 weeks)                          |     |     |     | 14.7  | 16.3    |       |       |
|                | Neo-Natal Rate for England and Wales                              |     |     |     | 15.5  | 15.6    |       |       |
|                | Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 live births |     |     |     | 21.4  | 21.9    |       |       |

| Cause of Death. |                                         |     |     |     |     |     | M. | F. |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| 1.              | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System      | ... | ... |     |     |     | —  | —  |
| 2.              | Other forms of Tuberculosis             | ... | ... | ... |     |     | —  | —  |
| 3.              | Syphilitic Diseases                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  |
| 4.              | Diphtheria                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  |
| 5.              | Whooping Cough                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  |
| 6.              | Meningococcal Infections                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  |
| 7.              | Acute Poliomyelitis                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  |
| 8.              | Measles                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  |
| 9.              | Other infective and parasitic diseases  | ... | ... |     |     |     | —  | —  |
| 10.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach             | ... | ... | ... |     |     | 3  | 1  |
| 11.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus      | ... | ... |     |     |     | 6  | 1  |
| 12.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Breast              | ... | ... | ... |     |     | —  | 2  |
| 13.             | Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus              | ... | ... | ... |     |     | —  | —  |
| 14.             | Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms | ... |     |     |     |     | 4  | 8  |
| 15.             | Leukaemia, Aleukaemia                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | 1  |
| 16.             | Diabetes                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  | 2  |
| 17.             | Vascular Lesions of Nervous System      | ... | ... |     |     |     | 13 | 13 |
| 18.             | Coronary Disease, Angina                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 | 7  |
| 19.             | Hypertension with Heart Disease         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  | —  |
| 20.             | Other Heart Disease                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8  | 13 |
| 21.             | Other Circulatory Disease               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | 1  |
| 22.             | Influenza                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  |
| 23.             | Pneumonia                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  | 2  |
| 24.             | Bronchitis                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  | —  |
| 25.             | Other disease of Respiratory System     | ... | ... |     |     |     | —  | 1  |
| 26.             | Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum           | ... | ... | ... |     |     | 1  | —  |
| 27.             | Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea      | ... | ... | ... |     |     | —  | —  |
| 28.             | Nephritis and Nephrosis                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  | —  |
| 29.             | Hyperplasia of Prostate                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  | —  |
| 30.             | Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  |
| 31.             | Congenital Malformations                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  | —  |
| 32.             | Other defined and ill-defined diseases  | ... | ... |     |     |     | 4  | 3  |
| 33.             | Motor vehicle accidents                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  | 1  |
| 34.             | All other accidents                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  | 2  |
| 35.             | Suicide                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  | —  |
| 36.             | Homicide and Operations of War          | ... | ... | ... |     |     | —  | —  |
| All causes      |                                         |     |     |     |     |     | 73 | 58 |

## **SECTION B.**

### **General Provision of Health Services in the Area.**

#### **Staff.**

I have the assistance and co-operation of the Public Health Inspector, Mr. R. S. Porter, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, Mr. C. G. Knott and Mrs. J. E. Johnson as Public Health Clerk. Mrs. Johnson left the Council's employ in November, 1961, after 16 years' service and her place was filled by Mrs. I. M. Mann.

#### **Laboratory Facilities.**

The Worcestershire County Council Laboratories are available for the chemical examination of water, milk and foodstuffs, and the work is carried out by the County Analyst.

All clinical bacteriology is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, situated at Worcester Royal Infirmary.

#### **Ambulance Facilities.**

For Infectious Disease an ambulance is provided by the Regional Hospital Board, and operates from Hayley Green Hospital.

For other cases an ambulance service is provided by the County Council, and operates from Kidderminster.

#### **Nursing at Home.**

There are four District Nurses in the area based at Chaddesley Corbett, Blakedown, Cookley and Wolverley, who also practise as Midwives and act as Health Visitors. Two other District Nurses and one Health Visitor also deal with portions of the area.

#### **Infant Welfare Centres.**

There are six Infant Welfare Centres in the area—at Far Forest, Wolverley, Cookley, Chaddesley Corbett, Blakedown and Gorst Hill, where immunisation and vaccination is carried out.

The Welfare Centre at Wribbenhall is also used by residents of the Area.

#### **Hospitals.**

The Kidderminster and District General Hospital is available for all residents in our Area, but some patients are admitted direct or transferred to All Saints' Hospital, Bromsgrove, which is most difficult of access to their relatives.

For Infectious Diseases the Isolation Hospital at Hayley Green is available.

## **Tuberculosis.**

This work is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, who arrange sanatorium treatment when necessary. Dispensaries are held every Tuesday at 6.30 p.m., Wednesday at 10.0 a.m., and Thursday at 2.0 p.m. at the Kidderminster General Hospital, where Dr. R. Cronin attends.

The County Council are responsible for prevention and after-care and this work is administered locally by the After-Care Sub-Committee.

## **Venereal Disease.**

The Regional Hospital Board arrange for treatment and follow-up of these cases at the Kidderminster General Hospital.

## **SECTION C.**

### **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

#### **Water.**

The Council own approximately 90 miles of water pipes, and the water in the Rural District is supplied by:—

- (1) The Council's Borehole at Cookley.
- (2) The City of Birmingham Elan Aqueduct.
- (3) The Stourbridge Water Board.
- (4) The East Worcestershire Water Board.
- (5) The South Staffordshire Water Works Company.
- (6) Kidderminster Corporation.

The supply is satisfactory both in regard to quality and quantity.

The Public Health Inspector submitted 30 samples of water from the six main sources for chemical and bacteriological examination. All the samples were satisfactory.

## Water Supplies to Houses in the Rural District.

| Parish.                   | From Public<br>Mains. Number<br>of Premises. | From Private<br>Supplies, e.g.<br>Wells, Springs,<br>etc. Number<br>of Premises. | Total. |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Wolverley ... ..          | 1,316                                        | 4                                                                                | 1,320  |
| Upper Arley ... ..        | 232                                          | 15                                                                               | 247    |
| Ribbesford ... ..         | 35                                           | 4                                                                                | 39     |
| Churchill and Blakedown   | 469                                          | 2                                                                                | 471    |
| Rock ... ..               | 641                                          | 20                                                                               | 661    |
| Broome ... ..             | 96                                           | 12                                                                               | 108    |
| Stone ... ..              | 156                                          | 20                                                                               | 176    |
| Rushock ... ..            | 54                                           | 2                                                                                | 56     |
| Kidderminster Foreign ... | 146                                          | 20                                                                               | 166    |
| Chaddesley Corbett ...    | 469                                          | 15                                                                               | 484    |
| Totals                    | 3,614                                        | 114                                                                              | 3,728  |

Percentage of houses connected to Public Mains = 96.8%.

## Drainage and Sewerage.

### Chaddesley Corbett.

Since the opening of the sewage scheme in 1960 good progress has been achieved in the connection of the properties to the sewer. By the end of the year 111 properties had been connected out of a total of 200.

**Callow Hill, Rock.**

In spite of the excellent progress made on sewage schemes elsewhere in the district, I must again draw your attention to the Callow Hill area and its drainage problems. Further housing development has taken place along this ridge and the difficulties of providing suitable drainage correspondingly increased.

The only satisfactory answer to this problem is the provision of a proper sewage scheme, although the engineering difficulties are appreciated.

**Summary of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal to Permanent Houses.**

| Parish                 | Houses<br>connected to a<br>Public Sewer | No. of Houses with: |                       |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
|                        |                                          | Pails               | Septic Tanks,<br>etc. |
| Wolverley ... ..       | 1,025                                    | 8                   | 154                   |
| Upper Arley ... ..     | 33                                       | 34                  | 120                   |
| Ribbesford ... ..      | —                                        | 2                   | 32                    |
| Churchill & Blakedown  | 294                                      | 10                  | 183                   |
| Rock ... ..            | 67                                       | 58                  | 601                   |
| Broome ... ..          | 2                                        | 2                   | 106                   |
| Stone ... ..           | 57                                       | 10                  | 138                   |
| Rushock ... ..         | 10                                       | 8                   | 46                    |
| Kidderminster Foreign  | 16                                       | 18                  | 264                   |
| Chaddesley Corbett ... | 279                                      | 26                  | 301                   |
| Totals                 | 1,783                                    | 176                 | 1,945                 |

## River Pollution.

### River Stour and Canal.

Despite the continued intensive efforts of the Severn River Board to bring about improvements in the condition of the River Stour it is unfortunate that there appears to be little change.

The Severn River Board are making most valuable progress in tracing the sources of pollution to this river and canal. However, a great deal remains to be done both in tracing pollution and preventative measures.

## HOUSING.

### (a) Action under Housing Act during the year.

|                                                      |     |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of houses represented for Demolition Orders   | 16  |
| Number of Demolition Orders made ... ..              | 11  |
| Number of houses represented for Closing Orders ...  | Nil |
| Number of Closing Orders made (whole houses) ...     | Nil |
| Number of Closing Orders made (part of a building)   | Nil |
| Number of Closing Orders changed to Demolition Order | Nil |
| Undertakings not to use house accepted ... ..        | 2   |
| Undertakings to repair house accepted ... ..         | Nil |
| Number of houses actually demolished during year ... | 3   |
| Number of persons displaced ... ..                   | 22  |

### (b) Public Health Act.

Houses in which defects were remedied:

|                                                 |     |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|
| After informal action by Local Authority ... .. | 123 |
| After formal action by Local Authority ... ..   | Nil |

## SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED.

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Preliminary Notices served ... .. | 59  |
| Intimation letters sent ... ..    | 14  |
| Statutory Notices served ... ..   | Nil |

## HOUSING ACT, 1936. Part IV—OVERCROWDING.

No case of serious overcrowding has come to light during the year.

## Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

### Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Our efforts to persuade all parents to bring their children for immunisation continued as before. There has been some improvement in their response.

A further 156 children under five years of age and 38 children from five to fifteen years of age were given primary courses of treatment and 292 were given booster doses.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified.

### Vaccination against Smallpox.

During the year 116 persons were vaccinated and 15 were re-vaccinated.

### Notifications.

The notifiable infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) which occurred during the year 1961 are set out in the following table:—

| Disease            | AGE IN YEARS |    |    |     |     |     |                   | Total<br>No. of<br>Cases | No. of<br>Cases<br>Admitted<br>to<br>Hospital | No. of<br>Deaths |
|--------------------|--------------|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------|
|                    | 0—           | 1— | 3— | 5—  | 10— | 15— | 25<br>and<br>over |                          |                                               |                  |
| Scarlet Fever ...  | —            | 1  | 1  | 10  | —   | —   | —                 | 12                       | 1                                             | —                |
| Measles ...        | 4            | 26 | 34 | 98  | 11  | 3   | 1                 | 177                      | 1                                             | —                |
| Whooping Cough     | —            | —  | 2  | 1   | —   | —   | —                 | 3                        | —                                             | —                |
| Pneumonia ...      | 1            | —  | —  | —   | 1   | —   | 10                | 12                       | —                                             | 3                |
| Sone Dysentery ... | —            | —  | —  | —   | —   | —   | 1                 | 1                        | —                                             | —                |
| Totals ...         | 5            | 27 | 37 | 109 | 12  | 3   | 12                | 205                      | 2                                             | 3                |

### Tuberculosis.

Six cases were notified during the year.

| Age<br>Periods | NEW CASES   |    |                     |    | DEATHS      |    |                     |    |
|----------------|-------------|----|---------------------|----|-------------|----|---------------------|----|
|                | Respiratory |    | Non-<br>Respiratory |    | Respiratory |    | Non-<br>Respiratory |    |
|                | M.          | F. | M.                  | F. | M.          | F. | M.                  | F. |
| —5             | —           | —  | —                   | —  | —           | —  | —                   | —  |
| 5—14           | 1           | —  | —                   | —  | —           | —  | —                   | —  |
| 15—24          | —           | —  | —                   | —  | —           | —  | —                   | —  |
| 25—44          | 1           | 1  | —                   | —  | —           | —  | —                   | —  |
| 45—64          | 1           | 1  | —                   | 1  | —           | —  | —                   | —  |
| 65 and over    | —           | —  | —                   | —  | —           | —  | —                   | —  |
| Totals         | 3           | 2  | —                   | 1  | —           | —  | —                   | —  |

It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations) 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

### Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959.

There are only two factories in the district, a steel works and a glass house maker. Conditions of employment are very satisfactory and the owners co-operate to the full with your Health Department.

#### Part I of the Act.

| Premises                                                                                 | Number on Register | Inspections |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities ... | 2                  | 13          |

No defects were found during the year.

#### Part VIII of the Act. Outwork.

(Sections 110 and 111.)

| Nature of Work         | Section 110                |                                          |                     |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------|
|                        | Outworkers in August Lists | No. of cases of default in sending Lists | No. of prosecutions |
| Making Wearing apparel | 1                          | Nil                                      | Nil                 |

There is only one person employed on outwork, viz., glove knitting in her own home and conditions are ideal.

## **Conclusion.**

The existing sanitary services in the area have proved satisfactory.

It is pleasing to know that plans are in hand for the extension and modernisation of Blakedown Sewage Works.

During the year the Council have sustained a great loss in the death of Councillor A. Pardoe, and my Department has cause to thank him for his help at all times.

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council and all Officials for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. W. MARKHAM,  
Medical Officer of Health.



KIDDERMINSTER

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**A N N U A L                      R E P O R T**

OF THE

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

FOR

**1961**

# **A N N U A L                      R E P O R T**

OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR 1961.

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To the Chairman and Members of the  
KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration within the Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1961.

## **MEAT, MILK AND OTHER FOODS.**

### **Meat.**

Three slaughterhouses have been in use during the year.

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

|                                                                                              | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| Number killed ... ..                                                                         | 169                         | —    | 21     | 865                   | 478  |
| Number inspected ... ..                                                                      | 151                         | —    | 17     | 801                   | 451  |
| <b>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT<br/>TUBERCULOSIS:</b>                                                 |                             |      |        |                       |      |
| Whole carcases<br>condemned ... ..                                                           | Nil                         | Nil  | Nil    | Nil                   | 1    |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned ... ..                              | 13                          | Nil  | Nil    | 66                    | 22   |
| Percentage of number<br>inspected affected with<br>disease other than<br>Tuberculosis ... .. | 7.7                         | Nil  | Nil    | 7.6                   | 4.6  |
| <b>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:</b>                                                                    |                             |      |        |                       |      |
| Whole carcases<br>condemned ... ..                                                           | Nil                         | Nil  | Nil    | Nil                   | Nil  |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned ... ..                              | 4                           | Nil  | Nil    | Nil                   | 8    |
| Percentage of number<br>inspected affected with<br>Tuberculosis ... ..                       | 2.3                         | Nil  | Nil    | Nil                   | 1.7  |

## Meat and Edible Offals Condemned.

|                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| Badly bled ... ..   | 119lbs. |
| Distomatosis ... .. | 30lbs.  |
| Pneumonia ... ..    | 278lbs. |
| Tuberculosis ... .. | 128lbs. |
| Injury ... ..       | 76lbs.  |

Total 631lbs.

## Milk.

The premises used for this trade which come under the jurisdiction of the Council have given no cause for complaint.

## Other Foods.

The following details show the position with regard to food premises:—

| Type                                         | No. | Registered<br>Section 14<br>F. and D. Act | Inspections |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| General Provisions ...                       | 47  | —                                         | 181         |
| Cafes ... ..                                 | 7   | —                                         | 51          |
| Hotels and other licensed<br>premises ... .. | 33  | —                                         | 91          |
| Works canteens ... ..                        | 1   | —                                         | 5           |
| Dairies ... ..                               | 21  | —                                         | 92          |
| Ice Cream Manufacturers                      | 1   | 1                                         | 15          |
| Ice Cream Retailers ...                      | 36  | 36                                        | 84          |

There has been no necessity to bring to the notice of food traders any serious infringements of regulations. They have a good sense of their responsibilities to the general public and are willing to adopt any reasonable suggestion made by the Health Department. The storage of food in deep freeze has been very successfully carried out.

There are two race meetings at Chaddesley Corbett each year, the catering arrangements for which are in the hands of reputable firms of caterers. Considering that these meetings are for one day only, standards of hygiene have been very good.

Personal contact has again been maintained with all persons handling food in the district.

## Ice Cream.

Having only one small manufacturer of ice cream the vast majority of ice cream sold in the district comes from large concerns in other areas. This ice cream is almost invariably supplied to the customer in cartons or wrappings.

It has not been necessary to draw attention to any infringements during the year.

**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

|                                       |     |     |     |    |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Number of unexpired licences in force | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|

**Bakehouses.**

|                                   |     |     |     |    |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Number on register December, 1961 | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| Inspections                       | ... | ... | ... | 15 |

**Contraventions Remedied:**

|             |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Limewashing | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

**PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

**Refuse Collection and Disposal.**

This service is carried out by three lorries. One S.D. Freighter with a crew of three, one 3-ton Bedford Eagle lorry with a crew of three, and a Contractor's lorry manned by two men.

The S.D. Freighter covers the parishes of Wolverley, Cookley, Churchill and Blakedown and Broome and gives a fortnightly service to these built-up areas. The Bedford deals with the parishes of Chaddesley Corbett, Stone and Rushock and gives a fortnightly service. The parishes of Rock, Upper Arley, Kidderminster Foreign and Ribbesford are dealt with by the Contractor.

This year saw the completion of tipping on the seven acre site at Panshops Lane, Wolverley.

This tip has given invaluable service to the Council since 1940 and after tipping had ceased the surface was levelled and seeded. It was agreed that the resulting field should be used as a Playing Field and Sports Centre for the village of Wolverley and an agreement was reached with the Wolverley Memorial Hall Committee for such use. This Committee have consulted experts, including the Playing Fields Association, and are in course of raising the money for the purpose and drawing up a final scheme. It is gratifying to see that seven acres of useless land can at last be used for the benefit of the residents of the district.

The new tip at Caunsall came into full use during the year and afforded the Council the opportunity of bringing into full play methods of Controlled Tipping. The refuse has been tipped in "fingers" which have been regularly covered with soil and ashes.

The refuse is sprayed with insecticides before covering and the nuisance from flies has been kept to an absolute minimum. The full-time employment of a Tip Attendant has greatly facilitated these operations.

The tip is surrounded with trees and bushes of several types and every endeavour has been made to retain as many as possible as they act as a very efficient screen.

As no fires have occurred up to the present there has been no nuisance from smoke.

With a regular supply of covering material this tip can continue to be a credit to the Council.

The following are details of the number of loads dealt with:

|                     |     |     |     |     |                          |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| Tipped at Wolverley | ... | ... | ... | ... | 883 loads.               |
| Tipped at Caunsall  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,037 loads.             |
| Tipped at Rock      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 137 loads.               |
|                     |     |     |     |     | <hr/> 2,057 loads. <hr/> |

### Night Soil Collection.

A weekly collection of night soil is made from Chaddeley Corbett village. This work is done by a local contractor, who uses a motor lorry provided with suitable bins for the carriage of the night soil. No complaints have been received with regard to the manner in which this work is done. The tenants of the houses concerned are to be congratulated on the way in which they cope with the situation and there has been no cause to draw their attention to any matter during the year.

It is pleasing to report that as a result of the installation of the new sewerage scheme for Chaddeley Corbett it will be possible to bring to an end this antiquated yet vital service.

### Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

A survey of caravans in the district revealed that on 33 sites there were 502 caravans, only six of which were used for permanent occupation.

The conditions which the Council decided to attach to Licences issued under the Act followed very closely the Model Standards.

By the end of the year licences had been issued covering 348 caravans for periods corresponding with the Town and Country Planning permissions in force, viz.:

|                                               |     |     |                       |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------|
| Austcliffe Farm—F. C. Oakley & Son            | ... | ... | 40                    |
| Wyre Forest Caravan Park—R. Dudley            | ... | ... | 50                    |
| Blakeshall Hostel—Kingsford Holiday Camp Ltd. | ... | ... | 205                   |
| Deasland Lane, Bewdley—Miss S. W. Kemp        | ... | ... | 1                     |
| The Poplars, Kingsford Lane—H. & R. Stephens  | ... | ... | 8                     |
| Hawkbatch—E. C. Blount                        | ... | ... | 44                    |
|                                               |     |     | <hr/> Total 348 <hr/> |

The remaining caravans were all subject to further action under the Town and Country Planning Acts for either enforcement notices, refusal of continuation of permissions or renewal of permissions. These cases should be resolved in 1962.

Many interviews were held with the applicants who, without exception, faced up to their responsibilities and showed every co-operation. The closest touch was kept with the Worcester City and County Fire Brigade and their suggestions with regard to Fire Fighting arrangements have been adopted.

A tribute must be paid to the caravan dwellers themselves. The district is fortunate that the vast majority of their caravan owners are of a good type who take a pride in the maintenance of their caravans and sites. When approached at site meetings they have, without fail, complied with the Council's requirements.

### Water Supply.

The Rural District is very well supplied with water from several sources. Bacteriological samples are regularly taken and when necessary chemical analyses are made. Details of samples taken are as follows:—

| Public Supplies Mains.    |     |     |     |     | Fit.     | Unfit.  | Total.   |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|---------|----------|
| Cookley Borehole          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10       | —       | 10       |
| Elan Valley               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5        | —       | 5        |
| Stourbridge Water Board   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4        | —       | 4        |
| South Staffs. Water Board | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7        | —       | 7        |
| East Worcs. Water Board   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2        | —       | 2        |
| Kidderminster Corporation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2        | —       | 2        |
|                           |     |     |     |     | <hr/> 30 | <hr/> — | <hr/> 30 |

### Private Supplies.

|                   |     |     |     |     |   |    |    |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|----|----|
| Wells and Springs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 14 | 16 |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|----|----|

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA, 1961.

Particulars of visits and inspections are as follows:

|                                                         |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Housing Inspection (Public Health and Housing Acts) ... | 797   |
| Caravans and Moveable Dwellings ... ..                  | 783   |
| Dairies ... ..                                          | 41    |
| Fried Fish Premises ... ..                              | 5     |
| Infectious Disease ... ..                               | 14    |
| Overcrowding ... ..                                     | 361   |
| Premises where animals are kept ... ..                  | 97    |
| Schools ... ..                                          | 12    |
| Water Courses ... ..                                    | 78    |
| Water Supply ... ..                                     | 191   |
| Workshops ... ..                                        | 4     |
| Provision of Dustbins ... ..                            | 103   |
| Miscellaneous ... ..                                    | 841   |
| Refuse Collection ... ..                                | 2,001 |

## SANITARY WORK.

### Interior of Houses.

|                                                      |    |
|------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Dirty houses improved and cleansed by tenants ... .. | 15 |
| Verminous houses dealt with ... ..                   | 1  |

### Yards and Outbuildings.

|                                                      |     |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Dirty yards and W.C.'s cleansed by tenants ... ..    | 9   |
| Offensive accumulations removed from yards, etc. ... | 251 |

### Drainage.

|                                                    |     |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Drains opened and cleansed from obstruction ... .. | 161 |
| Defective drains repaired ... ..                   | 63  |
| New drains provided ... ..                         | 113 |
| Sinks provided ... ..                              | 54  |
| Cesspools abolished ... ..                         | 31  |

### Water Closets.

|                                                                                                   |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| New Water Closets erected ... ..                                                                  | 78 |
| Foul and obstructed W.C.'s cleansed ... ..                                                        | 29 |
| New W.C. cisterns provided, others repaired ... ..                                                | 98 |
| Water Closets repaired ... ..                                                                     | 71 |
| Defective water supply to W.C.'s remedied (burst water pipes, defective ball valves, etc.) ... .. | 94 |
| Conversions:                                                                                      |    |
| Conversions of privies to W.C.'s ... ..                                                           | 4  |
| Conversion of pail closets to W.C.'s ... ..                                                       | 79 |

### **Privies and Pail Closets.**

|                                   |     |     |     |   |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| New pans provided to pail closets | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|

### **Ashpits and Dustbins.**

|                                                       |     |     |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Houses provided with new sanitary dustbins            | ..  | ... | 111 |
| Insanitary conditions of dustbins cleansed by tenants | ... |     | 31  |
| Ashpits abolished                                     | ... | ... | 1   |

### **Various.**

|                                           |     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Nuisance from improper keeping of animals | ... | ... | 29 |
|-------------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|

## **RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.**

### **Infestation Order, 1943.**

Appended herewith is a summary of the work carried out during the year.

|                                                     |     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Number of infestations dealt with at private houses | ... | 647 |
| Number of other infestations dealt with             | ... | 31  |
| Number of complaints received                       | ... | 219 |

### **Worcestershire Agricultural Executive Committee.**

The co-operation between this Committee and ourselves has been excellent, and our thanks are due to all concerned.

### **Worcestershire Planning and Advisory Committee.**

I am pleased to be able to report that this Committee has done very useful work during the year.

## **HOUSING.**

A further 41 houses were erected during the year, making a total of 755 since the war. A further 62 are in course of erection.

1961 saw the completion of the re-housing operation in respect of the occupiers of the Blakeshall Hostel who were displaced from the Far East.

During the year 17 families, comprising 69 people, were re-housed in Wardle Way, Wolverley. Here they joined the 18 families, comprising 86 persons, who were re-housed during 1960.

It is pleasing to report that these 35 families, comprising 155 persons, have settled in to their new way of life in a surprisingly satisfactory manner.

The Hostel is now being used as a caravan site for holiday use.

**PETROLEUM ACTS.**

Your Public Health Inspector also undertakes the duties of Petroleum Inspector, and the following figures are of interest:—

Number of Premises Licensed for storage:

|                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |    |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|----|
| Private             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ...         | 4  |
| Business Premises   |     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ...         | 43 |
| For Re-Sale         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ...         | 11 |
|                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             | —  |
| Total               |     |     |     |     |     |     |             | 58 |
|                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             | —  |
| Total fees received | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £34 0s. 0d. |    |

It was not necessary to draw the attention of any Licencee to any serious infringement of the Acts.

**CONCLUSION.**

In conclusion, Gentlemen, may I express my thanks for the interest and support given by the whole of the Council during the year?

I would also express my appreciation of the willing co-operation which I have received from the Clerk, Mr. J. H. Swann, the Surveyor, Mr. A. Chapman, the Rating Officer, Miss I. M. Mountford, and the whole of the Council's staff.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. S. PORTER,

Public Health Inspector.



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